

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/767,997

Examiner

Thinh T Nguyen

Applicant(s)

YODA ET AL.

Art Unit

2818

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/2/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 56-81.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/379,656.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



David Nelms
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The specification has been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. However, the applicant cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which the applicant may become aware in the specification.

Reason for allowance

2. Claims 56-81 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

I/ Group I: Claims 56,58-75,80-81.

None of the references of record teaches or suggests **MAGNETIC MEMORY DEVICE HAVING YOKE LAYER, AND MANUFACTURING METHOD** having the step limitations:

--“ removing part of the second layer, the magnetic film, and the insulating film on the magneto-resistance element to form first to fourth yoke tips from the magnetic film in self-alignment with the magneto-resistance element; “ --

and all other limitations in claim 56,

II/ Group II: Claim 57.

None of the references of record teaches or suggests **MAGNETIC MEMORY DEVICE HAVING YOKE LAYER, AND MANUFACTURING METHOD** having the step limitations:

--“ patterning the magnetic film to form first to fourth yoke tips from the magnetic film in self-alignment with the magneto-resistance element “--
and all other limitations in claim 57.

I/ Group III: Claims 76-79.

None of the references of record teaches or suggests **MAGNETIC MEMORY DEVICE HAVING YOKE LAYER, AND MANUFACTURING METHOD** having the step limitations:

--“ selectively removing the element material layer to form a magneto-resistance element and a yoke tip from the element material layer; “--
and all other limitations in claim 76.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance”.

3. When responding to the office action, Applicants are advised to provide the examiner with the line numbers and the page numbers in the application and/or references cited to assist the examiner to locate the appropriate paragraphs.

4. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) in parent Application 10/379,656 which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Yamanobe et al. (US patent 6,165,607) disclose a method of Sputtering target and antiferromagnetic film and magneto-resistance effect element formed by using the same

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thinh T Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1790. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on 571-272-1787. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Thinh T Nguyen *TTN*


David Nelms
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

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